

94.
Newes out of East India:

Of the cruell and bloody vsage of our English Merchants and others at Amboyna, by the Netherlandish Governour and Councell there.

To the tune of Braggendar y.



From India Land such newes I have,
Of death and deadly dole,
As may enforce a deepe remorse,
To each good Christian soule.
To thinke what English blood was shed,
Upon a small occasion bled.
Oh heauen looke downe,
Vpon poore innocent soules.

Betweene the English and the Dutch,
Hath bene a long debate:
And mischiefes many hath bene wrought,
Against our Merchants state,
Where Merchant-men have lost their lives,
Their goods, their children, and their wives:
Oh heauen looke downe,
Vpon poore innocent soules.

A towne there is Amboyna call'd,
A Caste in the same:
Made rich by these East-Country States,
And Merchants of great name:
Who on a time a plot devis'd,
To have our Englishmen surpris'd.
Oh heauen looke downe, &c.

They gave out words our Englishmen,
By secret treason wrought,
The towne and Caste to blow up,

and so in question brought,
Our English Merchants dwelling there,
With all that held our Country dear.

Oh heauen looke downe, &c.

Their Governour a Councell call'd,
And yet no reason had,
That twenty of our Englishmen
Should there their causes try:
Had answer so; a thing not done,
Nor any way there thought upon.
Oh heauen looke downe, &c.

To cruell tortures day by day,
Our English thus were brought:
Where strange tormenting instruments
Vpon their bodies wrought:
To make them all confess and say,
They sought Amboyna so betray.
Oh heauen looke downe, &c.

The first they laid vpon a blacke,
With armes and legs abroad,
And spred him, till he did confesse
and most vntreuly shew'd,
How that our Englishmen conspired,
To have the towne and caste surpris'd.
Oh heauen looke downe,
Vpon poore innocent soules.



The second Part,

The second of these wooll men,
they bound unto a stake:
And thrust him about the necke,
till he could hardly speake.
Which cruell torment to avoid,
saide that the towne should be destroyed.
Oh heauen looke downe, &c.

The third they bound in Iron chaines,
which griped him so sore,
That all his body round about,
was girt out bloody gore:
From which to find some ease he sayd,
Amboyna should have bene betrayed.
Oh heauen looke downe, &c.

They kept the fourth man at a post,
tied fast without fault:
And made his bloody body oze,
with vinegar and salt,
And so the fifth like punishment,
Though he did be gaine consent.
Oh heauen looke downe, &c.

With water they cast by the fifth,
till his body swoll'd:
The sixth the wife with twilled cord,
most barbarously compeld,
To say our English friends were those,
That were the townsmens greatest foes.
Oh heauen looke downe,

The eight with burning pincers pul'd,
made challenge of the rest:
Though most untrue, to ease himselfe,
and so false things confess.
So did the ninth by their pretence,
Bring in most wrongfull evidence.
Oh heauen looke downe, &c.

The tenth they hung up by the armes
two foot above the ground:
And so with scorching candles burn'd
his back and body round:
With all the other parts about,
till his eyes lights put out.
Oh heauen looke downe, &c.

The rest of these distressed soules,
were drest in like sort:
At which the cruell Governor,
made his tormenting sport.
Till upon the end of our Captiues,
Felt more then common tortures then.
Oh heauen looke downe,
vpon poore innocent soules

The names of those executed:

- 1 Captaine Gabriel Towerlon.
 - 2 Samuel Colton Factor.
 - 3 Emanuel Tomson Assistant.
 - 4 Timothy Johnson Assistant.
 - 5 John Wetherall Factor.
 - 6 John Clarke Assistant.
 - 7 William Griggs Factor.
 - 8 Abel Price Chyrurgian.
 - 9 Robert Browne Taylor.
 - 10 John Fardo steward of the English house.
- As also nyne native Indians suffered
together with them.

To the same tune.

When Captaine Towerlon came in place,
to answer with the rest:
To whom was told the treason was
by those before confess.
Though all as false as God was true,
Yet they affirme, the same he knew.
Oh heauen looke downe, &c.

For which his gods were seized on;
which all our English had:
And so unto the Judgement sent,
as traitors they were led.
And there instantly int'g'd to dye;
Which was performed immediately,
Oh heauen looke downe, &c.

Ten of our men they hang'd forthwith;
the other ten went free:
Which was a wrongfull Judgement giuen,
and full of griefe to see.
That after all those tortments past,
They thus should suffer death at last,
Oh heauen looke downe, &c.

But on the execution day,
as God did so dispose,
A sudden darkness and a gust
of violent winds arose.
Which cast two of their ships away,
As they at roade in harbour lay.
Thus heauen lookes downe, &c.

Pea here to make Gods vengeance more,
the chiefest of that plot.
In this tormenting of our friends,
as then escaped not.
But felt Gods heavy Iron hand,
And could no way the same withstand;
Thus Heauen lookes downe &c.

For coming to the graves where as
the murdered bodies lay:
He fell starke mad, and would not thence,
with life depart away.
But dyed most strangely in that place,
Even as a wretch bereft of grace:
Thus heauen lookes downe, &c.

Thus have you heard what bloody deeds,
were late in India done:
To make vs all in England heere,
with sorrow to thinke vpon,
What sad misfortune should be hap,
To take our friends in such a trap.
Yet heauen lookes downe,
Vpon poore innocent soules.

The names of those pardoned.

- 1 John Beomont.
 - 2 Edward Collins.
 - 3 William Webber.
 - 4 Ephraim Ramsey.
 - 5 George Sharocke.
 - 6 John Sadler.
 - 7 John Powell.
 - 8 Thomas Ladbroke.
 - 9 A Portingall.
- You may read more of this bloody Tragedy
in a booke printed by authority. 1624.